

indebted to two drawings in Buchanan's collection, which are marked "*Stolephorus*;" but the Stolephore (*Engraulis*, Cuv.) or Anchovies belong to the *Clupeidæ*, a family remarkable for its narrow or compressed forms. The two figures referred to are not compressed nor sharp beneath, so that they could not belong to the genus Buchanan had in view when he named them on the drawings; and this mistake he seems afterwards to have corrected, as the same two species appear unquestionably to be those described in the 'Gangetic Fishes,' p. 347-8, under the names of *Cyprinus Sucatio* and *Cyp. Balitora**.

The muzzle of these species is remarkably flattened and thin, but there is nothing remarkable about the pectoral fins; and the eyes, instead of being placed on the upper surface of the head, as in *Platy cara*, are situated on its edges; the mouth is remarkably small, placed far behind the long and thin muzzle, without any appearance of cirri, as in the Loaches, to which Buchanan supposed them to bear a resemblance. This genus, which appears to be the suctorial type, I propose to name *Psilorhynchus* †. The peculiarities just noticed, as well as the position of the eyes, which are far back in the head, as we see in the Moles, Ant-eaters, and other analogous types among quadrupeds, together with their well-formed and fully-developed fins, are indicative of powers of rapid motion, such as distinguishes the Humming-birds, Cinnyris, Waders, and other suctorial types in the same class. Unfortunately we are not acquainted with the habits of the two interesting species under consideration, further than that they were obtained by Buchanan in the northern parts of Bengal, to which they have been probably swept from the mountains. The information to be derived from their intestines is however of the less importance as affecting their type, as they would be equally suctorial whether they derived their food from the juices of plants or from shell-fish or ova.

[To be continued.]

XV.—Notice of a hitherto undescribed character distinctive of the Sexes in certain Lucanidæ. By J. O. WESTWOOD, F.L.S.

DURING the late visit of Professor Burmeister to London, he mentioned to me, whilst looking over my collection of entomological drawings, that a Brazilian insect therein represented,

* It was probably Buchanan's descriptions of these species Mr. Gray had in view when he bestowed the name *Balitora* on the genus which I now call *Platy cara*.

† From *psilo*, thin or attenuated, and *rhynchus*, a snout or beak.

and which had been regarded by the Rev. F. W. Hope as a species of *Pholidotus* (*Ph. irroratus*, H., Trans. Zool. Soc.*), and by myself as constituting a subgenus of *Pholidotus* (*Scortizus*, W., in Ann. d. Sci. Nat., 2nd Ser. t. i. p. 119), was naturally referable to the group of *Lucanidæ* typified by *Figulus*, MacL. (consisting of the genera *Figulus*, *Nigidius*, *Cardanus*, W., and *Ceratognathus*, W.), being, like those genera, furnished with a corneous hook at the extremity of the mando or internal lobe of the maxillæ. My drawings comprised a representation of the maxillæ, and exhibited this hook; but in the plate published in the 'Transactions of the Zoological Society' the figure of this organ was omitted.

The existence of two other Brazilian species of *Lucanidæ* closely allied to *Scortizus*, but of a narrower form, approaching that of the *Figulides*, and which also possessed a similar hook, appeared to confirm Dr. Burmeister's views, although the general form of *Scortizus irroratus*, and especially the partially squamose surface of the body, seemed equally to bring it into connexion with *Pholidotus*.

Having years ago discovered that the females of *Pholidotus* possess a similar hook†, although it is wanting in the males, it appeared to me that this circumstance gave a more direct clue to the solution of the question than any other that could be offered. The unique specimen, however, in Mr. Hope's collection being a female, it became necessary to examine the other sex, and fortunately the valuable collection of Brazilian insects of Mr. Miers afforded an example of both sexes; and on dissecting the male, I found, as I had anticipated, that its maxillæ were destitute of any corneous hook, thus proving the relationship of *Scortizus* and *Pholidotus*. Being further anxious to ascertain whether this sexual distinction might not also exist amongst the Figulideous species, the specimens of which hitherto dissected might possibly have been females alone—whilst the males hitherto undissected might have been destitute of such hook, which latter is in fact the character assigned by Mr. MacLeay to his genus *Figulus* in the 'Horæ Entomologicæ,'—I submitted all my exotic *Lucanidæ* (except those of the genus *Lucanus*) to the test of dissection, and the result has been the discovery of the existence of a similar sexual distinction in the genus *Lamprima*; whereas in *Nigidius* and *Ceratognathus*, W., the males of which are at once recognisable by the increased size of the mandibles, I found the

* *Lucanus maculatus*, Klug, in Nova Acta.

† Mr. MacLeay formed the female of this genus into the genus *Casignetus* in the 'Horæ Entomologicæ,' overlooking however this curious character, but suggesting its generic identity with *Pholidotus*.

maxillæ in this sex furnished with the hook as well as in the females. All my specimens of *Figulus* and *Cardanus*, W., are also similarly provided with the hook, but I have not distinguished between the sexes; so that I cannot affirm, although I fully believe, that both sexes of those two genera are also furnished with a hook, and consequently that the description of Mr. MacLeay of the genus *Figulus* is erroneous.

The genera in which I have found neither sex furnished with the hook are *Ceruchus*, *Platycerus*, *Ceratognathus*, W., *Syndesus* and *Rhyssonotus*.

In *Lepidodes*, W., a new subgenus of *Lucanus* which exhibits several of the characters of *Pholidotus* and *Rhyssonotus*, I found the unique female in Mr. Melly's collection to be destitute of a tooth.

I also found the females of *Chiasognathus* and *Sphenognathus* similarly destitute of the hook, although, from their close relationship with *Pholidotus*, I fully expected to find that they possessed it.

XVI.—*Insectorum novorum Centuria, auctore*
J. O. WESTWOOD, F.L.S.

*Decadis primæ Coleopterorum Synopsis**.

CARENUM, Bon.; *C. Spencii*. Subopacum, nigrum; tibiis anticis valde palmatis, elytris excavationibus rotundatis numerosis triplici serie (in utroque elytro) ordinatis; spatiis intermediis elevatis. Long. corp. lin. 9. Nova Hollandia. Mus. Melly.

HELOTA, MacL.; *H. Thibetana*. Ænea, lateribus cupreo-tinctis, valde rugosa et punctata tuberculisque oblongis distincta, elytris guttis 4-elevatis fulvis, antennis piceo-luteis, femoribus fulvis, apicibus æneis, tibiis fulvo piceoque annulatis. Long. corp. lin. 4. Habitat Thibet. Mus. Melly.

TRIPLATOMA †, Westw., in Griff. An. K.; *T. apicalis*. Nigra, lævis, prothoracis lateribus luteis macula oblongo-ovali nigra; elytris fascia valde angusta ante medium alteraque pone medium (in medio interrupta) et subobliqua luteis; apicibus apiceque abdominis rufis. Long. corp. lin. $9\frac{1}{2}$. Habitat Africa tropicali. D. Raddon. Mus. nostr. *Elater cæcus*, Fabr., Pal. B. Col. pl. 7. f. 4. valde affinis.

STERNOTOMIS, Perch. (*Sternodonta*, Dej., Lap.); *S. amæna*. Nigra, opaca, pronoto maculis duabus mediis lateribusque, scutello, maculis lateribusque elytrorum viridi-lacteis, maculis duabus in

* Figures and detailed descriptions of these insects are prepared, and will be published hereafter.

† Erotylidæ oblongæ, palpis maxillaribus simplicibus.